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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

AUTHENTICATION REFERRAL SEARCH FOR LDAP

5   A method, program and system for authenticating LDAP referral searches are provided. The invention comprises receiving a bind request from a LDAP referred search request and then searching the local directory for an

10   entry corresponding to the distinguished name (DN) of the bind request. If an entry for the bind DN is located within the local directory, the bind request is authenticated. If an entry for the bind DN is not found in the local directory, a defined reference server is

15   checked for the prefix of the bind DN. If the prefix for the bind DN is located in the reference server, the reference server is contacted for authentication, which is performed using a root DN. If an entry for the bind DN is not found in either the local directory or

20   reference server, the bind request cannot be authenticated and is denied.